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Docket No. 80398.P596

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Patent

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re Application of:	)	Examiner:	T. Zhou
Tobin et al.	)	Art Unit:	2173
Application No. 09/873,067	)	Confirm. No:	2986
Filed: June 6, 2001	)		
For: PERSISTENT NAVIGATION	)		
ASSISTANCE	) )		

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

# APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

This is an appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the decision of the Examiner of Group 2173, mailed June 23, 2006, in which claims 17-40 in the above-identified application were rejected in a final action. This Appeal Brief is hereby submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(a).

#### I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real parties in interest are the co-assignees of the full interest in the invention: Sony Electronics, Inc., Park Ridge, New Jersey, and Sony Corporation, Tokyo, Japan.

### II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

To the best of Appellant's knowledge, there are no appeals or interferences related to the present appeal that will directly affect, be directly affected by, or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the instant appeal.

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#### III. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 17-40 are pending in the application and were finally rejected in an Office Action mailed June 23, 2006. Claims 1-16 are cancelled. Claims 17-40 are the subject of this appeal. A copy of Claims 17-40 as they stand on appeal are set forth in Appendix A.

#### IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

No amendments to the claims have been made after receipt of the Final Office Action.

### V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Independent claim method 17 and independent computer readable media claim 35 claim identifying a particular product displayed in a web page using a device that displays a web page to the user [Specification, Figure 5, block 504, paragraphs 36 and 38]. Furthermore, independent claims 17 and 35 claim determining with the device whether an entry corresponding to the particular product in a supplemental information database [Specification, Figure 5, block 508, paragraph 38]. Independent claims 17 and 35 further claim that the database is separate from the displayed web pages and correlates supplemental information to differing products [Specification, paragraph 36]. In addition, clams 17 and 35 claim that the displayed web pages are ordinarily devoid of the supplemental information [Specification, paragraph 36]. Independent claims 17 and 35 claim displaying the supplemental information correlated with the particular product along with and separate from the web page if the database contains an entry for the particular product [Specification, Figure 5, block 512, paragraph 39].

Independent apparatus claim 23 claims a link assessment module that identifies a particular product display in a web page using a device that displays the web page [Specification, Figure 3, block 314, paragraph 36]. Furthermore, independent claim 23 claims that the link assessment module determines with the device whether an entry corresponding to the particular product in a supplemental information database [Specification, paragraph 38]. Independent claim 23 further claims that the database is separate from the displayed web pages and correlates supplemental information to

10/033,407 -2- 80398.P596

differing products [Specification, paragraph 36]. In addition, independent clam 23 claims that the displayed web pages are ordinarily devoid of the supplemental information [Specification, paragraph 36]. Independent claim 23 claims a supplemental information display module that displays the supplemental information correlated with the particular product along with and separate from the web page if the database contains an entry for the particular product [Specification, Figure 3, block 316, paragraph 39].

Claims 29-34 are claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 6<sup>th</sup> paragraph, Independent apparatus claim 29 claims means for identifying a particular product display in a web page using a device that displays the web page [Specification, Figure 3, block 314, paragraph 36]. The corresponding structure for the means for identifying is shown in Figure 3, block 314. Furthermore, independent claim 29 claims that the means for identifying determines with the device whether an entry corresponding to the particular product in a supplemental information database [Specification, Figure 3, block 314, paragraph 38]. Independent claim 29 further claims that the database is separate from the displayed web pages and correlates supplemental information to differing products [Specification, paragraph 36]. Independent claim 29 claims that the displayed web pages are ordinarily devoid of the supplemental information [Specification, paragraph 36]. In addition, independent claim 29 claims means for displaying the supplemental information correlated with the particular product along with and separate from the web page if the database contains an entry for the particular product [Specification, Figure 3, block 316, paragraph 39]. The corresponding structure for the means for displaying is shown in Figure 3, block 316.

Dependent claim 33 depends from independent claim 29 and claims a means for detecting an event related to the particular product, where the event prompts the display of the supplemental information for the particular product. The corresponding structure for the means for detecting is shown in Figure 3, block 312.

Dependent claim 19 depends from independent claim 17 and claims a second web page that correlates to a purchasable item and that the supplemental information includes a consumer incentive relating to the purchasable item and the user [Specification, paragraphs 39-40]. Furthermore, dependent claim 19 claims obtaining the consumer

incentive from the database with the consumer incentive not being ordinarily evident from the first web page [Specification, paragraphs 40-41].

## VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

- I. <u>Claims 23-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory matter.</u>
- II. Claims 17-18, 21-24, 27-30, 33-36, and 39-40 stand rejected under 35

  U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Jakobson, U.S. Patent No. 6,697,838,in view of

  Revashetti, U.S. Patent No. 6,230,199.
- III. Claims 19-20, 25-26, 31-32, and 37-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Jakobson in view of Revashetti and Harris, US Patent 6,014,635.

#### VII. ARGUMENTS

I. <u>Claims 23-28 are Patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is directed to statutory subject matter.</u>

The Examiner asserts that independent apparatus claim 23 is not tangible because the claim recites software elements. Appellant respectfully disagrees. Independent claim 23 claims an apparatus comprised of several modules. Appellant's specification supports that the modules can be hardware (Specification, paragraph 0032). Therefore, Appellant respectfully submits that claims 23-28 are directed to statutory subject matter and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection.

II. Claims 17-18, 21-24, 27-30, 33-36, and 39-40 are Patentable under 35 U.S.C.
§ 103(a) over Jakobson in view of Revashetti because the combination does not teach or suggest all elements in the claims.

Claims 17-18, 21-24, 27-30, 33-36, and 39-40 stand or fall together. Independent claim 17 is the representative claim.

Jakobson allows a user to create and display notes specific to a web page. The notes are stored locally on a user's computer and are displayed in a separate frame from the web page.

Revashetti discloses a system that inventories the software and hardware components of a user's computer. Based on that inventory, the system markets to the user products associated with the user's computer. Revashetti does not disclose inventorying products associated with a displayed web page.

Appellant respectfully submits that the combination of Jakobson and Revashetti is improperly motivated and does not teach or suggest each and every element of claim 17.

The Examiner asserts that Jakobson and Revashetti can be combined by modifying the user notes taught by Jakobson to include the product advertisements taught by Revashetti. However, Jakobson specifically states that his invention is directed toward allowing a user to annotate a web page with the user's comments (Jakobson: col. 2, lines 19-22). There is nothing in Jakobson that suggests modifying a user's notes to include data created by someone else. Thus, modifying Jakobson's notes to include downloaded product advertisements would change the principal of operation of Jakobson. If the proposed modification would change the principle of operation of the prior art invention being modified, then the teachings of the reference are not sufficient to render the claim *prima facie* obvious. *In re Ratti*, 270 F.3d 810, 123 USPQ 349 (CCPA (1959). Accordingly, the combination of Jakobson and Revashetti is improper.

Claim 17 recites correlating supplemental information particular to a user about a product in database identified in a web page on a device that displays the web page to the user. The Examiner admits that Jakobson does not teach or suggest this claimed element and relies on Revashetti as disclosing it. However, because Revashetti discloses marketing products to the user based on software and hardware components of a user's computer, Revashetti does not teach or suggest inventorying products associated with a displayed web page. Thus, Revashetti cannot teach or suggest correlating supplemental information about a product in a database identified in a web page as claimed. Thus, neither Jakobson nor Revashetti disclose this claim element in claim 17 and the combination cannot be properly interpreted as doing so.

Accordingly, Appellant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims 17-18, 21-24, 27-30, 33-36, and 39-40 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination of Jakobson and Revashetti.

III. Claims 19-20, 25-26, 31-32 and 37-38 are Patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

over Jakobson in view of Revashetti and Harris because the combination does not teach or suggest all elements in the claims.

Claims 19-20, 25-26, 31-32 and 37-38 stand or fall together. Dependent claim 19 is the representative claim.

Harris is directed towards providing a discount credit based transition network.

Appellant respectfully submits that the combination does not teach or suggest each and every limitation of Appellant's claim 19. Claim 19 depends from independent claim 17. Independent claim 17 recites correlating supplemental information particular to a user about a product. Because Harris is directed towards providing a discount credit based transition network, Harris cannot teach or suggest Appellant's claimed element of displaying on a web page, supplemental product information entries in database on a device that displays the web page to the user. Because Harris does not teach or suggest this claimed element that is missing in the Jakobson and Revashetti combination, the Jakobson, Revashetti and Harris combination cannot be properly interpreted as disclosing Appellant's invention as claimed in claim 19.

Accordingly, Appellant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims 19-20, 25-26, 31-32 and 37-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination of Jakobson, Revashetti and Harris.

#### VIII. CONCLUSION

Appellant's claims 23-28 are patentable because the claimed invention is directed to statutory subject matter. Appellant's claims 17-18, 21-24, 27-30, 33-36, and 39-40 are patentable because the combination of Jakobson and Revashetti is improper and further does not teach or suggest all the limitations in the claims. Appellant's claims 19-20, 25-26, 31-32 and 37-38 are patentable because the combination of Jakobson, Revashetti and

Harris does not teach or suggest all the limitations in the claims. Accordingly, Appellant respectfully requests the Board reverse the rejections of claims1-2, 4-11, and 13-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), and direct the Examiner to enter a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-2, 4-11, and 13-32.

# Fee for Filing a Brief in Support of Appeal

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$500.00 to cover the fee for filing a brief in support of an appeal as required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17(c) and 41.37(a).

# **Deposit Account Authorization**

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Appellant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR

& ZAFMAN LLP

Dated:  $\sqrt{20}$ ,  $200\overline{2}$ 

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#### **CLAIMS APPENDIX**

1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) A method of displaying supplemental information particular to a user regarding displayed web pages for the user, the method comprising:

identifying a particular product displayed in a first web page using a device that displays the first web page to the user;

determining, with the device, whether an entry corresponding to the particular product displayed on the first web page is contained in a database on the device, wherein the database comprises supplemental information particular to a user and correlates the supplemental information to each of a plurality of products, and wherein the database is separate from the first web page and the first web page is ordinarily devoid of the supplemental information; and

displaying supplemental information correlated to the particular product along with and separate from the first web page if it is determined that the database contains an entry for the particular product.

- 18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the particular product is associated with a link to a second web page.
- 19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the second web page correlates to a purchasable item, and the supplemental information includes a consumer incentive available to the user and relating to the purchasable item, the consumer

incentive being obtained from the database and not being ordinarily evident from the web page.

- 20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the consumer incentive is a discount for purchasing the purchasable item from the web site using a particular credit card, the database includes an entry indicating that the user has the particular credit card, and the supplemental information indicates that the user will obtain the consumer incentive where the particular credit card is used to purchase the purchasable item.
  - 21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising:

    detecting an event relating to the particular product, wherein the event prompts the display of supplemental information for the particular product.
- 22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the event is a cursor rollover of the particular product, and the supplemental information is superimposed on the first web page in the vicinity of the display of the particular product.
- 23. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for displaying supplemental information particular to a user regarding displayed web pages for the user, the apparatus comprising: a link assessment module, for identifying a particular product displayed in a first web page using a device that displays the first web page to the user and determining, with the device, whether an entry corresponding to the particular product displayed on the first web page is contained in a database on the device, wherein the database comprises

supplemental information particular to a user and correlates the supplemental information to each of a plurality of products, and wherein the database is separate from the first web page and the first web page is ordinarily devoid of the supplemental information; and

a supplemental information display module, in communication with the link assessment module, for displaying supplemental information correlated to the particular product along with and separate from the first web page if it is determined that the database contains an entry for the particular product.

- 24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the particular product is associated with a link to a second web page.
- 25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the second web page correlates to a purchasable item, and the supplemental information includes a consumer incentive available to the user and relating to the purchasable item, the consumer incentive being obtained from the database and not being ordinarily evident from the web page.
- 26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the consumer incentive is a discount for purchasing the purchasable item from the web site using a particular credit card, the database includes an entry indicating that the user has the particular credit card, and the supplemental information indicates that the user will obtain the consumer incentive where the particular credit card is used to purchase the purchasable item.

10/033,407 -10- 80398.P596

- 27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 23, further comprising: an event detecting module, for detecting an event relating to the particular product, wherein the event prompts the display of supplemental information for the particular product.
- 28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the event is a cursor rollover of the particular product, and the supplemental information is superimposed on the first web page in the vicinity of the display of the particular product.
- 29. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for displaying supplemental information particular to a user regarding displayed web pages for the user, the apparatus comprising:

means for identifying a particular product displayed in a first web page using a device that displays the first web page to the user and determining, with the device, whether an entry corresponding to the particular product displayed on the first web page is contained in a database on the device, wherein the database comprises supplemental information particular to a user and correlates the supplemental information to each of a plurality of products, and wherein the database is separate from the first web page and the first web page is ordinarily devoid of the supplemental information; and

means for displaying supplemental information correlated to the particular product along with and separate from the first web page if it is determined that the database contains an entry for the particular product.

- 30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the particular product is associated with a link to a second web page.
- 31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the second web page correlates to a purchasable item, and the supplemental information includes a consumer incentive available to the user and relating to the purchasable item, the consumer incentive being obtained from the database and not being ordinarily evident from the web page.
- 32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein the consumer incentive is a discount for purchasing the purchasable item from the web site using a particular credit card, the database includes an entry indicating that the user has the particular credit card, and the supplemental information indicates that the user will obtain the consumer incentive where the particular credit card is used to purchase the purchasable item.
- 33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 29, further comprising:

  means for detecting an event relating to the particular product, wherein the event

  prompts the display of supplemental information for the particular product.
- 34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the event is a cursor rollover of the particular product, and the supplemental information is superimposed on the first web page in the vicinity of the display of the particular product.

10/033,407 -12- 80398.P596

35. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium that stores instructions for performing the steps of:

identifying a particular product displayed on a first web page in a first web page using a device that displays the first web page to the user;

determining, with the device, whether an entry corresponding to the particular product displayed on the first web page is contained in a database on the device, wherein the database comprises supplemental information particular to a user and correlates the supplemental information to each of a plurality of products, and wherein the database is separate from the first web page and the first web page is ordinarily devoid of the supplemental information; and

displaying supplemental information correlated to the particular product long with and separate from the first web page if it is determined that the database contains an entry for the particular product.

- 36. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 35, wherein the particular product is associated with a link to a second web page.
- 37. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 36, wherein the second web page correlates to a purchasable item, and the supplemental information includes a consumer incentive available to the user and relating to the purchasable item, the consumer incentive being obtained from the database and not being ordinarily evident from the web page.

- 38. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 37, wherein the consumer incentive is a discount for purchasing the purchasable item from the web site using a particular credit card, the database includes an entry indicating that the user has the particular credit card, and the supplemental information indicates that the user will obtain the consumer incentive where the particular credit card is used to purchase the purchasable item.
- 39. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 35, further comprising instructions for performing the step of:

detecting an event relating to the particular product, wherein the event prompts the display of supplemental information for the particular product.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 39, wherein the event is a cursor rollover of the particular product, and the supplemental information superimposed on the first web page in the vicinity of the display of the particular product.

# **EVIDENCE APPENDIX**

, NONE.

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# RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

NONE.

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# **FEE TRANSMITTAL FOR FY 2007**

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# 2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

# **Fee Description**

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Code	(\$)	Code	(\$)	Fee Description
1202	50	2202	25	Each claim over 20
1201	200	2201	100	Each independent claim over 3
1203	360	2203	180	Multiple dependent claims, if not paid
1204	200	2204	100	Reissue: each claim over 20 and more than in the original patent
1205	50	2205	25	Reissue: each independent claim more than in the original patent

	Extra Claims	<u>Fee</u>	Fees Paid (\$)
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# 3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 C.F.R. 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additoinal <u>50 or fraction thereof</u>	Fee from <u>below</u>	Fees paid (\$)
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Code	(\$)	Code	(\$)	beyond
1081	250	2081	125	Utility
1082	250	2082	125	Design
1083	250	2083	125	Plant
1084	250	2084	125	Reissue

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#### FEE CALCULATION (continued) 4. OTHER FEE(S) Fees Paid (\$) Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount) Small Entity Fee Fee Fee Fee Code Code **Fee Description** (\$) (\$) 1051 130 2051 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath 1052 50 2052 25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet 1053 130 1053 130 Non-English specification 1812 2,520 2,520 1812 For filing a request for ex parte reexamination 1813 8,800 8,800 1813 Request for inter parties reexamination 1804 920\* 1804 920\* Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action 1,840\* 1805 1,840\* 1805 Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action 1251 120 2251 60 Extension for reply within first month Extension for reply within second month 1252 450 2252 225 1253 1.020 2253 510 Extension for reply within third month 1254 1,590 2254 795 Extension for reply within fourth month 1255 2,160 2255 1.080 Extension for reply within fifth month 1401 500 2401 250 **Notice of Appeal** 1402 500 2402 250 Filing a brief in support of an appeal 500.00 1403 1,000 2403 500 Request for oral hearing 1451 1,510 1451 1.510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding 1452 500 2452 250 Petition to revive - unavoidable 1453 1,500 2453 750 Petition to revive - unintentional 1501 1,400 700 2501 Utility issue fee (or reissue) 1502 800 400 Design issue fee 2502 2503 1503 1100 550 Plant issue fee Petitions to the Commissioner (CFR 1.17(f) Group I) 1462 400 1462 400 Petitions to the Commissioner (CFR 1.17(g) Group II) 1463 200 1463 200 Petitions to the Commissioner (CFR 1.17(h) Group III) 1464 130 1464 130 1807 50 1807 50 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q) 1806 180 1806 180 **Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt** 8021 40 8021 40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties) 1809 790 395 2809 For filing a submission after final rejection (see 37 CFR 1.129(a)) 1814 130 2814 65 Statutory Disclaimer 1810 790 2810 395 For each additional invention to be examined (see 37 CFR 1.129(b)) 1801 790 2801 395 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) 1802 900 1802 900 Request for expedited examination of a design application 1504 300 300 Publication fee for early, voluntary, or normal pub. 1504 1505 300 300 1505 Publication fee for republication 1803 130 1803 130 Request for voluntary publication or republication 1808 130 1808 130 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) (except provisionals) Acceptance of unintentionally delayed claim for priority 1454 1,370 1454 1,370 Other fee (specify) Other fee (specify) SUBTOTAL (4) \$ 500.00 \*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid **SUBMITTED BY:** Eric S. Replogle Typed or Printed Name: Signature: **Reg. Number:** 52,161 **Telephone Number:** 408-720-8300

Send to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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	An Amendment After Final Action (37 CFR 1.116) is attached and applicant(s) re-	quest expedited action.			
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_ <u>X</u>	Applicant(s) hereby request and authorize the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office future reply that requires a petition for extension of time as incorporating a petit appropriate length of time and (2) charge all required fees, including extension CFR 1.16 and 1.17, for any concurrent or future reply to Deposit Account No. 0	tion for extension of time for the of time fees and fees under 37			
	Applicant(s) claim small entity status (37 CFR 1.27).				
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